



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Rockville MD 20857

NDA 19-766/S-032

AUG 5 1999

Merck Research Laboratories
Attention: Charles Hyman, M.D.
Director, Regulatory Affairs
Sumneytown Pike, P.O. Box 4
BLA-20
West Point, PA 19486

Dear Dr. Hyman:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug application dated October 16, 1998, received October 19, 1998, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Zocor (simvastatin) Tablets.

We acknowledge receipt of your submissions dated October 30, 1998 and January 18, February 2, 16 and 25, March 24, May 27, July 12 and 21, 1999.

This supplemental new drug application provides for the additional indication of increasing HDL-C in patients with primary hypercholesterolemia (heterozygous familial and nonfamilial) and mixed dyslipidemia (Frederickson Types IIa and IIb). The revised first paragraph of the "Hyperlipidemia" subsection of INDICATIONS AND USAGE will state "Zocor is indicated as an adjunct to diet to reduce elevated total-C, LDL-C, Apo B, and TG levels, and to increase HDL-C in patients with primary hypercholesterolemia (heterozygous familial and nonfamilial) and mixed dyslipidemia (Frederickson Types IIa and IIb)."

We have completed the review of this supplemental application, as amended, and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug product is safe and effective for use as recommended in the draft labeling submitted July 21, 1999. Accordingly, the supplemental application is approved effective on the date of this letter.

The final printed labeling (FPL) must be identical to the submitted draft labeling (package insert submitted July 21, 1999).

Please submit 20 copies of the FPL as soon as it is available, in no case more than 30 days after it is printed. Please individually mount ten of the copies on heavy-weight paper or similar material. For administrative purposes, this submission should be designated "FPL for approved supplement NDA 19-766/S-032." Approval of this submission by FDA is not required before the labeling is used.

Be advised that, as of April 1, 1999, all applications for new active ingredients, new dosage forms, new indications, new routes of administration, and new dosing regimens are required to contain an assessment of the safety and effectiveness of the product in pediatric patients unless this requirement is waived or deferred (63 *FR* 66632). We note that you have not fulfilled the requirements of 21 CFR 314.55 (or 601.27). We are deferring submission of your pediatric studies until March 31, 2002. However, in the interim, please submit your pediatric drug development plans within 120 days from the date of this letter unless you believe a waiver is appropriate.

If you believe that this drug qualifies for a waiver of the pediatric study requirement, you should submit a request for a waiver with supporting information and documentation in accordance with the provisions of 21 CFR 314.55 within 60 days from the date of this letter. We will notify you within 120 days of receipt of your response whether a waiver is granted. If a waiver is not granted, we will ask you to submit your pediatric drug development plans within 120 days from the date of denial of the waiver.

Pediatric studies conducted under the terms of section 505A of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act may result in additional marketing exclusivity for certain products (pediatric exclusivity). You should refer to the *Guidance for Industry on Qualifying for Pediatric Exclusivity* (available on our web site at www.fda.gov/cder/pediatric) for details. If you wish to qualify for pediatric exclusivity you should submit a "Proposed Pediatric Study Request" in addition to your plans for pediatric drug development described above. If you do not submit a Proposed Pediatric Study Request within 120 days from the date of this letter, we will presume that you are not interested in obtaining pediatric exclusivity [NOTE: You should still submit a pediatric drug development plan.] and will notify you of the pediatric studies that are required under section 21 CFR 314.55. Please note that satisfaction of the requirements in 21 CFR 314.55 alone may not qualify you for pediatric exclusivity.

If a letter communicating important information about this drug product (i.e., a "Dear Health Care Practitioner" letter) is issued to physicians and others responsible for patient care, we request that you submit a copy of the letter to this NDA and a copy to the following address:

MEDWATCH, HF-2
FDA
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

We remind you that you must comply with the requirements for an approved NDA set forth under 21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81.

If you have any questions, contact Margaret Simoneau, R.Ph., Regulatory Management Officer, at (301) 827-6418.

Sincerely,

Solomon Sobel, M.D.

Director

Division of Metabolic and Endocrine Drug Products

Office of Drug Evaluation II

Center for Drug Evaluation and Research